

professors. How many of our youths she now has, learning the lessons of anti-Missourian-ism, I know not; but a gentleman lately from Princeton told me he saw there the list of the students at that place, and that more than half were Virginians. These will return home, no doubt, deeply impressed with the sacred principles of our Holy Alliance of restrictionists. But the gloomiest of all prospects is in the desertion of the best friends of the institution—for desertion I must call it."

Late in the year 1823 the Board of Visitors decided to wait no longer for favorable action by the legislature, but began to look around for proper men to fill the chairs of the new institution. The Board was unanimous in its conviction that the best men were to be found abroad, and a special agent was sent to Oxford, Cambridge and Edinburgh, a policy which provoked much adverse criticism in certain quarters. During the next few months most of the Faculty were selected and the opening date was set for March, 1825. Some of the Faculty were delayed in crossing the Atlantic, a circumstance which caused Jefferson much uneasiness both for their safety and for the delay occasioned to the beginning of work. By June there were in attendance upon lectures nearly a hundred students. The pride and satisfaction with which Jefferson thus saw the fruition of his hopes can hardly be expressed. His interest in everything touching the institution was absorbing. He cultivated the personal acquaintance and friendship of each member of the Faculty, and his counsel was ready on any question which arose. With his high ideals of conduct, he could not bring himself to palliate mischief or disorderly conduct among those whom he considered assembled for the most sacred pursuit of life. He advocated the employment of summary measures against the first boyish offenders upon whose cases his advice had been requested—probably the sole instance of severity recorded of him.

Toward the close of this year, Jefferson's pecuniary troubles assumed a form which could be no longer ignored or concealed. They were due to no sudden reverse of fortune, but their causes are to be traced backward through many years. It is significant